

Serial No.: 09/924,785
Group Art Unit: 2684
Examiner: Shaima Q. Aminzay

In the Claims

1-25 (Canceled).

26. (New) A system for providing a prepaid service in a multi-network communication system, comprising:

a first wireless communication network operating according to a first protocol;
a second wireless communication network operating according to a second protocol;
a prepaid service subsystem for supporting prepaid service to mobile users of both the first wireless communication network and the second wireless communication network, wherein request for prepaid service from any of the mobile users is directed to the prepaid service subsystem through the second wireless communication network;

the prepaid service system is in communication with the second wireless communication network and with the first wireless communication network via the second wireless communication network, wherein a request for prepaid service from a mobile user of the first wireless communication network is directed to a signaling control point (SCP) associated with the second wireless communication network which communicates with the prepaid service subsystem for determination of prepaid status of the mobile user; and

the second wireless communication network further including a switch controller for controlling connection routing for communications associated with mobile users of the first wireless communication network which have been authorized by the prepaid service subsystem.

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27. (New). The system of claim 26, wherein the first wireless communication network is a cellular system and the second wireless communication network is a Global System for Mobile Communication system.
28. (New). The system of claim 26, wherein connection routing includes call set-up between an originating mobile user of the first wireless communication network and a call destination.
29. (New). The system of claim 26 further including a third wireless communication network operating according to one of the first protocol, the second protocol, and a third protocol, wherein a request for prepaid service from a mobile user of the third wireless communication network is also directed to the SCP associated with the second wireless communication network